

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend paragraphs [0012] and [0081] as follows:

[0012] According to the second aspect, plural running vectors may be prepared based on plural pieces of positional information and speed information which are transmitted from one running vehicle at different timings, may be prepared based on plural pieces of positional information and speed information which are transmitted from plural vehicles running at different positions, or may be prepared by combining the above-mentioned pieces of information. Thus, by observing vector mapping data on which the plural running vectors obtained in the above-mentioned manner are provided, it is possible to roughly estimate the running path of the first vehicle. By roughly estimating the running path of the first vehicle, it is possible to estimate the road configuration. Particularly, by obtaining the plural running vectors based on positional information and speed information obtained from the ~~first~~ second vehicle running ahead of the first vehicle, the running path of the first vehicle can be roughly obtained in advance.

[0081] ~~It should be noted that in the embodiment of the invention the host vehicle may be regarded as corresponding to a "first vehicle". Further, the other vehicle may be regarded as corresponding to a "second vehicle". Moreover, the following vehicle may be regarded as corresponding to a "third vehicle".~~